

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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LIMDIS

JIDDA FOR CODEL JAVITS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP (JAVITS, JACOB), PBOR PGOV JO US XF
SUBJECT: CODEL JAVITS: TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER AND CROWN
PRINCE

REF: AMMAN 3776

1. ON SIX-HOUR VISIT TO JORDAN JULY 5, CODEL
JAVITS HAD TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER AND CROWN
PRINCE WHICH BRACKETED HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH
KING HUSSEIN REPORTED SEPTEL. CODEL HAS NOT
REVIEWED THIS CABLE AND IT IS SUBJECT TO THEIR
COMMENT AND CORRECTION. WITH CODEL APPROVAL
RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT REPEAT TO CAIRO, DAMASCUS,
TEL AVIV, AND JERUSALEM.

2. SENATOR JAVITS EXPLAINED TO PRIME
MINISTER AND CROWN PRINCE THAT HE HAD UNDERTAKEN
TO DEBATE SOME VIEWS ON THE MIDDLE EAST WITH
PRESIDENT CARTER AND AFTER DISCUSSION WITH THE
PRESIDENT HE CAME TO THE AREA TO TALK WITH THE NEW
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ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AND TO SEE FIRST HAND THE ATTITUDES
IN THE OTHER ARAB STATES. THE PRIME MINISTER
EMPHASIZED JORDAN'S ADHERENCE TO RESOLUTIONS
242 AND 338 AND THE NEED FOR THE PEACE PROCESS TO
GO AHEAD ON THAT BASIS.

3. THE SENATOR EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO AVOID AN

ACRIMONIOUS DEBATE OVER 242 AND 338 AND TO ESTABLISH EARLY THE NEED FOR A PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO DISCUSS THE AGENDA FOR PEACE TALKS AND THE ISSUE OF PARTICIPATION. HE SUGGESTED THIS COULD TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON. SENATOR ALSO NOTED THAT THERE APPEARED TO BE UNANIMITY IN THE AREA, THAT NOW WAS THE APPROPRIATE TIME TO MOVE AHEAD IN THE PEACE PROCESS. HE SAID HE HAD URGED PM BEGIN TO BRING "SPECIFICS" TO WASHINGTON.

4. WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN, IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSING THE REASONS FOR THE TRIP, SENATOR ALSO RECOUNTED ESSENTIAL DETAILS OF HIS DISCUSSION WITH THE KING AND THE FUTURE ROLE OF JORDAN IN A WEST BANK SETTLEMENT. CROWN PRINCE REVIEWED HIS RECENT TRIP TO THE U.S. AND EUROPE AND SIAD HE HOPED THAT THE ARABS COULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN A SMOOTH OFFENSIVE REGARDING THE PEACE PROCESS. HE HOPED THEY WOULD ESCHEW EXTREME POSITIONS. ALL OF THE ARAB STATES NEED ECONOMIC HELP. HASSAN SAID HE HAD MET WITH THE PLO DURING THE ILO MEETINGS IN GENEVA AT THEIR REQUEST. THEY HAD PRESSED STRONGLY FOR A JORDANIAN ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS. HASSAN SAID HE TOLD THEM "THAT IF THEY NEEDED THE DESPISED AND TREACHEROUS HASHEMITES TO HELP SOVE THE PROBLEM THEY BETTER

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BEGIN SAYING SO PUBLICLY." HE CONCLUDED THE PLO NEEDS TO HAVE ITS BLUFF CALLED. HE REPEATED WHAT THE KING HAD SAID ABOUT THE NEED FOR THE U.S. TO HELP COVERGE INTERESTS IN TE AREA. HE NOTED THAT THE SAUDIS SEEMED TO HAVE AN "IDEALISTIC ATTITUDE" TOWARD THE PLO AND HE HAD GOTTEN THE IMPRESSION IN WASHINGTON THAT FAHD WAS A FERVENT PROMOTER OF THE PLO. HASSAN ALSO SAID HE HAD RECEIVED THE IMPRESSION IN WASHINGTON THAT IN GLOBAL TERMS THE U.S. VIEWED THE MIDDLE EAST AS SOMEWHAT EASIER THAN THE PROBLEMS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA FOR EXAMPLE.

5. DISCUSSION THEN TURNED TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN JORDAN OF REGIONAL INTEREST SUCH AS THE MAQARIN DAM AND THE POTASH PROJECT. HASSAN NOTED THAT MUCH POTASH TECHNOLOGY WAS LOCKED UP IN ISRAEL AND HE HOPED IT COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO JORDAN THROUGH A THIRD PARTY. HASSAN LAID STRESS FOR THE FUTURE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. HE SAID IF UNRWA GOES UNDER WE NEED WAYS TO PROVIDE SPECIALIZED CREDIT TO DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES OF

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. PALESTINIANS HAD ALREADY BEEN
DEEPLY ABSORBED IN THE ECONOMY AND BY CONTINUING
TO HELP DEVELOP THE JORDANIAN ECONOMY THE PROCESS COULD BE
CARRIED FORWARD. THE SENATOR RECALLED THE PARLOUS ECONOMIC
CONDITION OF EGYPT AND THE FACT THAT IT WAS USING
ALL THE FUNDS WHICH IT RECEIVED TO MAKE THE PRESENT
ECONOMY GO WITHOUT ANYTHING LEFT OVER TO INVEST IN DEVELOPMENT.
THE CONVERSATION BRIEFLY TURNED TO THE NUMBERS
OF REFUGEES WHO MIGHT RETURN TO THE WEST
BANK AND ITS ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY. HASSAN SAID
JORDAN WAS REVIVING INTEREST IN DEVELOPING ITS
COPPER DEPOSITS WITH AN AMERICAN FIRM AND HE
HOPES THAT ITS EASILY-MINED SHALE OIL MIGHT BE EXPLOITED
ECONOMICALLY TO PRODUCE 50,000 BARRELS OF OIL A DAY ON THE
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BASIS OF HIS RECENT DISCUSSIONS IN THE U.S.

6. THE CONVERSATION ENDED WITH A DISCUSSION OF
THE PARIS NORTH-SOUTH MEETING AND THE REASONS
FOR LACK OF ANY GREATER PROGRESS THERE.
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